

Appl. No. 10/002,372
Amdt. Dated June 14, 2005
Reply to Office action of March 17, 2006
Attorney Docket No. P14691-US1
EUS/J/P/05-3136

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of accessing an Intelligent Network (IN) service from any one of a plurality of dissimilar telecommunications networks, said method comprising the steps of:

utilizing an Equal Access function for providing subscribers with equal access to a plurality of Inter-Exchange Carriers (IECs) by assigning to each carrier, an associated Carrier Identification Code (CIC) code, and storing a specified Preferred Inter-Exchange Carrier (PIC) category in a database for each subscriber

~~identifying a function that is common to each of the plurality of dissimilar telecommunications networks;~~

identifying an interface within the common function that is common to each of the plurality of dissimilar telecommunications networks;

modifying the common interface to direct designated calls to an Intelligent Network (IN); and

executing the IN service by the IN network upon receiving a designated call.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of accessing an IN service, of claim 2 wherein the interface within the common function that is common to each of the plurality of dissimilar telecommunications networks is a traffic router interface that analyzes the CIC code received during a call, and routes the call to an appropriate destination.

4. (Original) The method of accessing an IN service of claim 3 wherein the step of modifying the common interface to direct designated calls to an IN network

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includes specifying a special CIC code which triggers the traffic router interface to route the call to a switching node in the IN network rather than to an IEC.

5. (Original) A method of providing a particular subscriber in a first telecommunications network with access to an Intelligent Network (IN) service that is accessed through a switching node in a second telecommunications network, said first network providing the subscriber with equal access to a plurality of inter-exchange carriers by assigning to each carrier, an associated carrier identification code (CIC) code, and utilizing the CIC code associated with the subscriber's chosen carrier to route to the chosen carrier, the subscriber's originating and terminating calls, said method comprising the steps of:

- specifying in the first network, a special CIC code for the IN service;
- associating the special CIC code with the subscriber;
- detecting in the first network, an originating or terminating call for the subscriber;
- routing the call from the first network to the switching node in the second network based upon the special CIC code associated with the subscriber; and
- accessing the IN service in the second network from the switching node.

6. (Original) The method of providing access to an IN service of claim 5 wherein the step of specifying a special CIC code for the IN service includes the steps of:

- specifying a special preferred inter-exchange carrier (PIC) category in a subscriber database in the first network; and
- translating the special PIC category to the special CIC code upon detecting an originating or terminating call for the subscriber.

7. (Original) The method of providing access to an IN service of claim 6 wherein the first network is an ANSI-41 network, and the step of translating the special PIC category to the special CIC code is performed in a Home Location Register (HLR).

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8. (Original) The method of providing access to an IN service of claim 6 wherein the first network is a Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM) network, and the step of translating the special PIC category to the special CIC code is performed in a Mobile Switching Center/Visitor Location Register (MSC/VLR).

9. (Original) The method of providing access to an IN service of claim 5 wherein the step of routing the call from the first network to a switching node in the second network includes:

 sending the special CIC code to a traffic router;

 performing an analysis of the special CIC code in the traffic router; and

 in response to said analysis, routing the call to the switching node in the second network.

10. (Original) The method of providing access to an IN service of claim 5 wherein the first network is an ANSI-41 network, and the second network is a Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM) overlay network, and the step of routing the call from the first network to a switching node in the second network includes routing the call from a Mobile Switching Center (MSC) in the ANSI-41 network to a Service Switching Point (SSP) in the GSM network.

11. (Original) The method of providing access to an IN service of claim 10 wherein the step of accessing the IN service in the second network includes accessing a GSM Prepaid service through a Service Control Point (SCP) in the GSM network.

12. (Original) A method of providing a particular subscriber in an ANSI-41 radio telecommunications network with access to an Intelligent Network (IN) service that is accessed through a Service Switching Point (SSP) in a Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) overlay network, said ANSI-41 network providing the subscriber with equal access to a plurality of inter-exchange carriers by assigning to each carrier, an associated carrier identification code (CIC) code, and utilizing the CIC

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code associated with the subscriber's chosen carrier to route to the chosen carrier, the subscriber's originating and terminating calls, said method comprising the steps of:

- specifying a special preferred inter-exchange carrier (PIC) category in the particular subscriber's subscriber database in a Home Location Register (HLR) in the ANSI-41 network;

- detecting an originating or terminating call for the subscriber;

- translating in the HLR, the special PIC category to a special CIC code associated with the IN service;

- sending the special CIC code to a traffic router in a Mobile Switching Center/Visitor Location Register (MSC/VLR) in the ANSI-41 network;

- performing an analysis of the special CIC code in the traffic router to determine where the call should be routed;

- in response to said analysis of the special CIC code, routing the call from the MSC/VLR to the SSP in the GSM overlay network; and

- accessing the IN service through a Service Control Point (SCP) in the GSM overlay network.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the step of accessing the IN service through an SCP in the GSM network includes accessing a GSM Prepaid service through the SCP.

14. (Original) A system for providing a particular subscriber in a first telecommunications network with access to an Intelligent Network (IN) service that is accessed through a switching node in a second telecommunications network, said first network providing the subscriber with equal access to a plurality of inter-exchange carriers by assigning to each carrier, an associated carrier identification code (CIC) code, and utilizing the CIC code associated with the subscriber's chosen carrier to route to the chosen carrier, the subscriber's originating and terminating calls, said system comprising:

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a subscriber database modified to store a special preferred Inter-exchange carrier (PIC) category for the subscriber;

a data translator modified to translate the special PIC category into a special CIC code associated with the IN service; and

a switch in the first network that detects an originating or terminating call for the subscriber, and retrieves the special CIC code from the subscriber database in response thereto, said switch including a traffic router that performs an analysis of the special CIC code, and in response to said analysis, routes the call from the first network to the switching node in the second network for access to the IN service.

15. (Original) The system for providing access to an IN service of claim 14 wherein the first network is a Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) radio telecommunications network, and the subscriber database is implemented in a Home Location Register (HLR), and the data translator is implemented in the switch.

16. (Original) The system for providing access to an IN service of claim 14 wherein the first network is an ANSI-41 radio telecommunications network, and the subscriber database and the data translator are implemented in a Home Location Register (HLR).

17. (Original) The system for providing access to an IN service of claim 16 wherein the second network is a Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) overlay radio telecommunications network that provides GSM services to GSM subscribers in a geographical area that is also served by the ANSI-41 network.

18. (Original) The system for providing access to an IN service of claim 16 wherein the switching node in the second network is a Service Switching Point (SSP) in the GSM network, and the SSP provides access to a GSM Prepaid service through a Service Control Point (SCP) in the GSM network.